wherein the bottom portion of the slot formed at the intersection of the adjacent back yoke portions is curved,

wherein end faces of adjacent back yoke portions respectively include male and female shapes and continuous straight line portions, each of the male and female shapes having a half circular shape with a center of a respective connection portion, and

wherein each of the continuous straight line portions extend as a tangent line of the half circular shape from an edge of the half circular shape to inner edges of the back yoke portions.

Please add new Claim 19 as follows: -

19. The stator iron core of the electric motor according to claim 1, further comprising:

an insulator member disposed on a wall surface of the teeth portion and extending at about 90° so as to cover a wall surface of the back yoke portion including a bottom portion of a slot formed at a connecting intersection of adjacent back yoke portions.

## <u>REMARKS</u>

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 10, 13 and 19 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended by the present amendment and Claim 19 has been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 10 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over <u>Kazama et al</u> in view of <u>Takeuchi et al</u>, which is respectfully traversed.